

Surplus Success...

U.V.S.C. Fire & Rescue Academy Has All The Right Stuff For Utah Safety Training.

As the summer wildfire season rages on, throughout the picturesque State of Utah, fire fighters in several cities, counties and fire districts have a new line defense against the flames, fire fighting foam. Surplus Property screener Ron Gibbens, was able to locate more than 200, 55-gallon drums the fire fighting foam.

With the current retail price of the foam being \$17 to \$19 per-gallon, this much needed tool was too expensive to be purchased by State firefighters. Being a former firefighter himself, Gibbens quickly obtained the foam when it became available through the Federal Surplus Property Program in Arizona and California. The foam was purchased by the fire agencies throughout the State for a mere \$4 per-gallon.

St. George Fire Chief, Robert Stoker, was one of the fire agencies able to purchase the foam through the State and Federal Surplus Program. He explained that the product, when added to water becomes a foam which suffocates a fire by preventing the flames from getting oxygen. The foam can be

used to create a fire wall to stop the spread of flames, or sprayed on homes to protect them as a larger fire rages past. He was also excited by the purchase of the foam, because having the foam available to his firefighters will lessen the cost of insurance for the city. This will leave more money in next years budget to purchase other needed fire fighting equipment.

Another area that the foam can help to save lives is in the smothering of Africanized Killer Bees. The Class 3 fire fighting foam has been successfully used to eradicate the bees in areas where they have integrated in the U.S.

Other agencies that have received the fire fighting foam are Davis County Fire District, the State Fire Academy as well as fourteen cities and five counties.

Gibbens will continue searching for more fire fighting foam and other equipment that will assist fire fighters throughout the State in their efforts to keep Utah beautiful.

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